

As a consumer I wish to explain that I value obtaining Internet service from an independent ISP such as Sonic.net. BellSouth has filed a petition at the FCC, asking the FCC to stop regulating broadband service.

If this petition is granted, this would mean that the large phone companies would no longer be subject to regulatory review of their broadband pricing to independent ISPs like Sonic.net. As a result, independent ISPs would have to individually negotiate pricing and the ability to interconnect, which would undoubtedly raise their prices, and mine in the long term.

The more serious threat is that it is even possible that the phone companies could, in the long run, refuse to provide the necessary connections for our DSL service, and we would be unable to sell DSL at all. This would seriously affect my choice of internet service for broadband.

The companies which built the Internet itself should not be wiped away and replaced by the large telephone monopolies!

Please do not let this happen. I make little money and cannot afford a service that requires more financial commitment to get the internet I need for my work. I am a traveling teacher and do not have access to any computers at my work sites.

Please consider this carefully,
Donna M. Mankus

and why BellSouth's request would
badly affect consumers with regards to your available choice of
Internet Service for broadband.